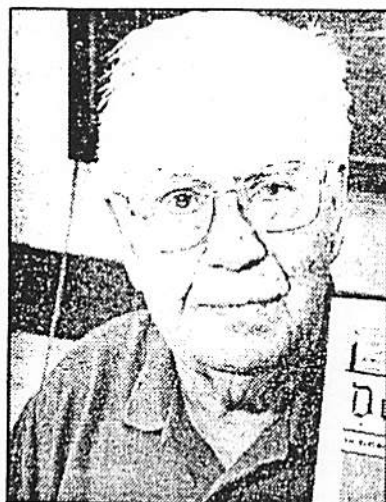


DUXBURY HISTORY FILE
REFERENCE



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John H. Cutler
Eulogized as crusader

Clipper editor remembered

By John Chaffee
The Patriot Ledger

DUXBURY — John Henry Cutler was eulogized Saturday as a man who for 48 years conducted a crusade to do what he thought was best for Duxbury.

With his wife, Cutler co-founded the Duxbury Clipper weekly newspaper in 1950 and served as its editor until his death last week at the age of 88.

Patriot Ledger columnist David Mittell Jr., a longtime friend of the Cutler family, delivered the eulogy before a capacity congregation in St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church.

"Right or wrong, his great love of his adopted town led him to an impeccable intellectual integrity," Mittell said. "For nigh unto 50

years he articulated what he believed to be best for the town without regard to the consequences for himself."

Mittell said Cutler greeted all of his friends, famous or not, with a "relaxed lack of pretension spiked with occasional bluntness."

Cutler could be "irascible and unrelenting when he disagreed with you," Mittell said, but "unlike some of his critics, he didn't carry grudges."

"In both public affairs and private relations, he was the first one to forgive and forget," Mittell said.

The memorial service was attended by a host of past and present town officials, including all three selectmen.

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Clipper editor remembered for devotion to town

■ CUTLER

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Other officials in attendance included Town Clerk Nancy Oates, Town Moderator Allan Bornheimer, Fire Chief William Harriman, Assessor June Albritton, finance committee member Paul Arsenian and board of appeals member Jack Canty.

The Rev. Michael Marrone, rector of the church, presided at the 80-minute service.

Two of Cutler's grandsons also spoke at the service.

"He had a great intellect, but also a great intellectual curiosity," Joshua Cutler said.

Benjamin Cutler recalled his grandfather as a lifelong Red Sox fan who grew up in the shadow of Fenway Park in Boston and whose earliest memory of the team was seeing Babe Ruth pitch.

Mittell said, "Later in life, John would lose a son, he would lose his wife, he would lose his eyesight, but he never lost his critical faculties or his ability to serve the town."

On leaving the Snug Harbor church, those who attended the service had to turn either right or left on Washington Street, Mittell noted.

"Whichever way you go, you will see a village which, if anything, is more beautiful than it was in 1950."

That's something that can be said of very few villages, towns or cities in this country today, Mittell said.

And that, he added, is John Cutler's legacy to Duxbury.

"He stood up for Duxbury," Mittell said.